Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

# Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 06780 010906Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 /069 W
----------122609 010927Z /23
R 010700Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1295
AMEMBASSY DACCA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 6780

FOLLOWING RECD FROM CALCUTTA SENT NEWDELHI, BOMBAY, MADRAS,
DATED APRIL 28, 1978 BEING RPTD TO YOU.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 732

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT
SUBJECT: ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN NORTHEASTERN STATE OF MIZORAM

1. THE UNION TERRITORY OF MIZORAM WILL GO THE
POLLS ON MAY 17 AND 20 TO FILL THE 30 ELECTIVE SEATS
IN ITS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. (THREE ADDITIONAL PLACES
ARE FILLED BY NOMINATION). LIKE ADJACENT NAGALAND,
MIZORAM HAS FOR SOME YEARS NOW BEEN TROUBLED BY AN
INSURGENCY. PARTITIONED FROM ASSAM IN 1971, ITS
FIRST ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN 1972. THEY BROUGH TO
POWER A GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS GENERALLY COOPERATIVE WITH
NEW DELHI, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF LAWRENCE CHALCHUNGA.
IT GOVERNED MIZORAM'S 350,000 PEOPLE FIRST UNDER THE
LABLE OF THE MIZO UNION AND THEN UNDER THE TITLE MIZO
CONGRESS, FOR THE PRESCRIBED FIVE YEARS, ALTHOUGH UNION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 06780 010906Z

TERRITORY STATUS AND A HEAVY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MILITARY
AND POLICE PRESENCE DOUBTLESS MADE ITS POWERS IN CERTAIN
FIELDS MORE SYMBOLIC TTIN REAL. THE CHALCHUNGO
GOVERNMENT RESIGNED ON MAY 2, 1977, NOT ONLY
BECAUSE OF THE COMPLETION OF THE NORMAL TIME SPAN
OF OFFICE BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE NATIONAL REVERSAL
OF CONGRESS FORTUNES.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

2. IT APPEARS THAT MODERATE ELEMENTS IN MIZORAM HAVE
BEEN WILLING AND EAGER TO HOLD ELECTIONS THROUGHOUT
THE PERIOD SINCE THEN, BUT THE GOI IN FACT HAS HELD
THE TERRITORY UNDER PRESIDENT RULE FOR ALMOST A YEAR
AT THE INSTANCE OF THE LEADER OF THE INSURGENCY,
MR. LALDENGA OF THE MIZO NATIONAL FRONT. THE PURPOSE
OF THE DELAY WAS TO PERMIT THE GOI TO NEGOTIATE WITH LALDENGA
(IN NEW DELHI WHERE HE HAS SUDDENLY SURFACED IN 1976)
FOR THE END OF HIS INSURGENCY, MEANING THE COMING
"OVERGROUND" OF HIS FOLLOWERS AND THE LAYING DOWN OF THEIR
ARMS. UNTIL RECENTLY THESE NEGOTIATIONS APPEARED TO BE
GOING SUCCESSFULLY, BUT THIS APPARENTLY WAS BECAUSE LALDENGA
HOPED THAT AS A REWARD FOR MAKING PEACE,
THE GOI WOULD PLACE HIM DIRECTLY IN THE CHIEF MINISTERSHIP
WITHOUT ELECTIONS IT EVENTUALLY BECAME CLEAR THE GOI
HAD NO INTENTION OF DOING THIS. ALTHOUGH THE NEW DELHI
DISCUSSIONS AND LALDENGA'S PROTESTATIONS OF HIS DESIRE
TO WORK WITHIN THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION CONTINUED, THE
GOI CAME TO BELIEVE THAT THE FORMER INSURGENT IN HIS
MESSAGE BACK TO HIS FOLLOWERS WAS ACTUALLY RESHUFFLING HIS
CHIEF SUBORDINATES AND LAYING THE GROUNDWORK
FOR FURTHER VIOLENCE, SUCH AS THE 1975 ATTACK
THAT TOOK THE LIEVES OF THREE SENIOR POLICE OFFICIALS.
ON MARCH 31 HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH IN THE LOK
SABHA ANNOUNCED THE GOI'S BELIEF THAT LALDENGA WAS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 06780 010906Z

NOT ACTING IN GOOD FAITH, AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
IS NOW PROCEEDING TO HOLD THE MIZORAM ELECTIONS, APPARENTLY
WITHOUT LALADENGA.

3. AT THE MOMENT, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE
MIZO LEAGE"MIZO CONGRESS, FOR REASONS OF INTERNAL
DISARRAY, WILL NOT PARTICIPATE, OR NOT PARTICIPATE
EFFECTIVELY IN THE ELECTION, AND THAT THE
PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE PARTY (PCP) UNDER THE LEADERSHIP
OF RETIRED BRIGADIER T. SAILO WILL DOMINATE THE POLLING.
THE PCP WON MIZORAM'S LOK SABHA SEAT IN 1977. THE PCP
HAS APPARENTLY NOT BEEN AN ILLEGAL OR A VIOLENT PARTY,
BUT IT HAS STEADILY EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO NEW DELHI'S
HEAVY PRESENCE IN MIZORAM, AND ITS LEADER SAILO IS
PERHAPS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS CAMPAIGNING ON
HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS AGAINST NEW DELHI'S POLICE TACITCS
IN THE TERRITORY. LYDON UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** ELECTION FORECASTS, LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 01 may 1978
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1978NEWDE06780
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** N/A
**Errors:** N/A
**Expiration:**
**Film Number:** D780185-0448
**Format:** TEL
**From:** NEW DELHI
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t197805106/aaaadmit.tel
**Line Count:** 112
**Litigation Code IDs:**
**Litigation Codes:**
**Litigation History:**
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Message ID:** 1aaea494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Office:** ACTION NEA
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 3
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Retention:** 0
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Release Date:** N/A
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**SAS ID:** 2531451
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IN NORTHEASTERN STATE OF MIZORAM
**TAGS:** PINT, IN
**To:** STATE DACCA
**Type:** TE
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1aaea494-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Review Markings:**
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014